



**For Immediate Release**

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## **NEWS RELEASE**

# **Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority Wins Best of ITS Award**

**June 6, 2019 (Tampa, Fla.)** – The Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) Connected Vehicle Pilot has been named the winner of this year’s Best of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Award from the Intelligent Transportation Society of America. THEA received the award on June 4 at ITS America’s annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

The THEA Connected Vehicle Pilot is an innovative effort to deploy cutting-edge connected vehicle technology in downtown Tampa to help prevent crashes and keep traffic moving. This multimodal project, which is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Transportation, has equipped more than 1,000 cars, 10 buses, 8 streetcars and a pedestrian crosswalk with technology that enables vehicles to “talk” to each other, traffic signals and other elements of the infrastructure. In certain potentially hazardous situations, the driver of a connected vehicle hears an audible warning and a safety message is displayed in the rearview mirror.

The Best of ITS Award annually recognizes organizations that have implemented the most advanced transportation projects in the nation. According to ITS America, the award program “aims to distinguish organizations whose projects demonstrate specific and measureable outcomes and exemplify innovation.”

“We are honored to receive this prestigious award, but we are even prouder of the progress we have made toward making Tampa a safer and smarter place to walk, ride and drive,” said Bob Frey, the Director of Planning and Innovation for THEA. “Connected vehicles have the potential to prevent crashes and save lives, so the best is yet to come.”

For more information on the THEA Connected Vehicle Pilot, visit [www.TampaCVPilot.com](http://www.TampaCVPilot.com).

### **About the Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority**

The Tampa Hillsborough Expressway Authority (THEA) is a user-financed public agency led by a board of local citizens. Operating with no tax dollars, THEA develops and owns toll highways, including Lee Roy Selmon Expressway. THEA also owns and maintains non-tolled roads, including Brandon Parkway and Meridian Avenue, and the Selmon Greenway, a bicycle and pedestrian path through downtown Tampa. All tolls collected by THEA are reinvested into projects in Hillsborough County. For more information, visit [www.tampa-xway.com](http://www.tampa-xway.com).

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